

REMARKS

There remains pending in this application Claims 1-9. As amended, Claim 1 is now the sole independent claim. No claims have been added or cancelled.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

The invention as now set forth in independent Claim 1 is directed to a recording apparatus for recording on a recording medium by a recording head. The apparatus includes a feed roller for feeding a recording medium one-by-one and a conveying roller for conveying a recording medium fed by the feed roller to a recording area. A discharge roller is provided for discharging a recording medium from the recording area. The invention is characterized in its provision of control means adopted to start the feeding of a succeeding recording medium by the feed roller before the discharge of a preceding recording medium by the discharge roller wherein the control means determines a timing for starting the feeding of the succeeding recording medium by the feed roller in accordance with a leading end margin amount of the succeeding recording medium.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Matsumoto et al. In view of the above amendments, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The invention as featured in independent Claim 1, as well as claims depending therefrom, is related to a recording apparatus which starts the feeding of a succeeding recording medium by a feed roller before the discharge of a preceding recording medium by a discharge roller. As now presented, the invention is characterized in that among other features a timing for starting the feeding of the succeeding recording medium by the feed roller is determined in

accordance with a leading end margin amount of the succeeding recording medium. As a result of this combination of features, the feeding time and recording time for continuous recording of plural recording media can be shortened.

Matsumoto et al. is related to paper feed method and apparatus and features feeding means, conveying means and recording means. More specifically, Matsumoto et al. features a device wherein a sheet of paper 302 interposed between a paper feed roller 303 and a separating pad 304 is returned onto a hopper 301 by means of a reverse rotation of the paper feed roller. However, Matsumoto et al. makes no reference to the leading end margin amount of the succeeding recording medium or of any control that determines timing based thereon. This reference says nothing to indicate the above features of Claim 1 in that the timing for starting the feeding of the succeeding recording medium by the feed roller is determined in accordance with a leading end margin of the succeeding recording medium.

Applicants note the Examiner's reference to column 20, line 45 through column 22, line 34 as featuring the feed start timing being determined in accordance with a leading end margin amount for the succeeding recording medium. However, Applicants respectfully disagree that there is any such disclosure in that portion or any other portion of this reference. Indeed, the term margin is not believed to appear anywhere in this prior art patent. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 as amended is distinguishable over the applied art of record.

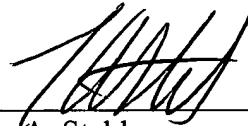
The remaining claims in the above application are dependent claims which depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1 and are therefore patentable over the art of record for reasons noted above with respect to Claim 1. In addition, each recite features of the

invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding matters in this application have been addressed and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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